

Frisbie-Walsh House  
235 East L Street  
Benicia  
Solano County  
California

HABS No. CA-2087

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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Architectural and Engineering Record  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

STATE California	COUNTY Solano	TOWN OR VICINITY Benicia
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Frisbie-Walsh House		HABS NO. CA-2D87
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 225 East L Street		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) ca. 1850	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) None known	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) This Gothic Revival style cottage is the earliest and probably the most important house in Benicia. Built shortly before 1850 by John Frisbie, General Vallejo's son-in-law, it was soon sold to Captain Walsh, who lived there until the 1880s. Apparently, this structure was a prefabricated house, in which the timbers were cut and numbered, brought (cont'd in Alterations, below)		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Gothic Revival		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) clapboard over frame		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) T-shaped, two stories, with one-story porches filling out the T, making a rectangle.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE High-pitched gable roofs, elaborate decorative bargeboards on gables with a finial and pendant on each peak, gable wall dormers; second-floor window on south side has Gothic arch with hoodmold, bay window beneath it on first floor.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Graceful winding stairway		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES cont'd from Significance: to Benicia and assembled. It is very close in appearance to Lachryma Montis, General Vallejo's own house near Sonoma, and to the Burritt House, once located in San Francisco but since demolished.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Fair condition; residence		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE The Benicia project was undertaken by HABS in the summer of 1976 with the cooperation of Exxon Company, USA, and the Benicia Historical Society. The project supervisor was John P. White and the project historian was Robert Brueggemann.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Madie Brown Emparan, <u>The Vallejos of California</u> (San Francisco, 1968), p. 260. Wood, Allen and Co., <u>History of Solano County</u> (San Francisco, 1879), pp. 160, 452-3. T.Z. Barry and B.A. Patten, <u>Men and Memories of San Francisco in the Spring of '50</u> COMPILER, AFFILIATION (San Francisco, 1873), p. 139.		
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